



DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES
Delta Protection Commission Meeting
Thursday, January 19, 2017

West Sacramento City Hall Galleria
1110 W. Capitol Avenue
West Sacramento, CA 95691

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order

Chair Thomson called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commission Clerk Matthews called the roll. Present: Chair Thomson, Vice Chair Villegas, Commissioners Burgis, Ferguson, Winn, Lofthus, Ledesma (for Cabaldon), White (for Kelly), Ferrara (for Laird), Eddy (for Ross), and Nomellini (for Scriven). Commissioner Nottoli arrived at 6:10 p.m.

A quorum was established with eleven Commissioners present at roll call.

Chair Thomson welcomed new Commissioner Diane Burgis.

3. Welcome and Public Comment- Opportunity for the Public to Address the Commission Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

Russell van Loben Sels presented on behalf of the Delta Caucus and expressed concerns regarding the Delta Flood Risk Management Assessment District Feasibility Study, especially the potential funding mechanisms. Melinda Terry commented on the Delta Flood Risk Management Assessment District Feasibility Study and expressed concern over the potential funding mechanisms.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Approval of November 17, 2016 meeting minutes

MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Ferrara and seconded by Commissioner Loftus to approve the November 17, 2016 meeting minutes; in a voice vote, the motion passed with 8 aye votes and 3 abstentions (all present at roll call voting aye except for Commissioners Winn, Villegas and Burgis abstaining).

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Receive Executive Director Report

Executive Director Vink provided an update on the Delta Flood Risk Management Assessment District Feasibility Study and noted that the public comment period has been extended to March 1, 2017; described the potential actions it can undertake to assist in

addressing the problem of harmful algal blooms in the Delta; mentioned that the new Commission website is up and running; referred to a single Commission land use comment letter; mentioned the Governor's proposed FY 17-18 budget which includes stable funding for the Commission with a proposed supplement of \$91,000 to allow the Commission to upgrade an existing position to a program manager; and provided an update on staff changes by bidding farewell to two staff members, Nicole Bert and Jennifer Ruffolo.

Chair Thomson asked for public comment and there was none.

6. Receive Delta Protection Advisory Committee report

DPAC Chair Mark Pruner reported on the January 12, 2017 DPAC meeting. A DPAC work plan was discussed as well as the proposed update of the ag section of the Economic Sustainability Plan and the Delta Flood Risk Management Assessment District Feasibility Study.

Chair Thomson asked for public comment and there was none.

7. Consider approval of Delta Protection Commission 2016 Annual Report

Mr. Vink mentioned the requirement in Public Resources Code section 29780 that the Commission report annually on the progress made in achieving the statutory objectives of the Commission, and noted that a copy of the draft 2016 annual report was provided in the meeting packet.

Chair Thomson asked for public comment and there was none.

MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Ledesma and seconded by Commissioner Burgis to approve the 2016 Annual Report; in a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously (all 11 Commissioners present at roll call voting aye).

8. Consider approval of Delta Leadership Program 2017 participants

Mr. Vink described the proposed 2017 program, the co-sponsorship with the Delta Regional Foundation, and reported on the selection process. In response to a question from Commissioner Burgis, he noted that the 2017 participants do not cover the entirety of the Delta geography and that there would be additional effort in 2018 to represent the full Delta geography. He then asked for the Commission's approval of the 17 proposed participants.

Chair Thomson asked for public comment and there was none.

MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner White and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to approve the 2017 Delta Leadership Program participants; in a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously (all 11 Commissioners present at roll call voting aye).

9. **Receive presentation on 2017 Update to the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP)**
Acting Assistant Executive Director Natasha Nelson introduced Leslie Gallagher and Andrea Buckley from the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, and Michael Mierzwa and Mary Jimenez from DWR's Division of Flood Management. Ms. Gallagher introduced the proposed 2017 CVFPP update and the need to define long term goals, stating that many capital improvements are still necessary. Mr. Mierzwa presented an overview of the 2017 CVFPP update.

Commissioner Nottoli commented on the financing for the flood system improvements; Commissioner Eddy asked a clarifying question on local funding; Commissioner Nomellini asked about permitting costs and advance mitigation, suggesting that mitigation activities should be grouped in the most appropriate locations; and Commissioner Winn expressed concern over the maintenance of floodway channels and upstream storage, noting the connection to sustainable groundwater efforts.

Chair Thomson asked for public comment; Melinda Terry of the California Central Valley Flood Control Association provided thanks for the presentation and mentioned the upcoming public hearings.

In a final comment, Commissioner Nottoli requested that the Commission's comment letter on the 2017 CVFPP update come before the Commission at the March 2017 meeting for approval.

10. **Receive report on Delta Recreation Inventory and Delta Recreation Research Agenda**
Senior Environmental Planner Adele Lagomarsino presented on the Commission's 2015 Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Recreation Inventory, including updated data related to Delta recreation facilities and their amenities. She discussed how the Inventory assists with Commission efforts to promote increased Delta recreation and tourism, including the use of the 2015 Inventory tables and maps for the Delta Tourism Awareness Marketing Plan (under development by the Delta Conservancy in conjunction with the Commission). She also presented information on proposed research projects to advance the recommendation in the Economic Sustainability Plan to provide improved data on recreation and tourism use.

Commissioner Nottoli commented on the distribution of the 2015 Inventory and the need to link and connect with other efforts (Delta Marketing effort, local chambers of commerce); Commissioner Ledesma recommended reaching out to cities in the Delta and linkages to bicycling; Commissioner White described the Transportation Agency's active transportation program.

Chair Thomson asked for public comment and there was none.

11. Consider Commission comment letter on the Delta Stewardship Council's proposed amendments to Delta Plan Chapter 7 (Delta Levee Investment Strategy - DLIS)

Mr. Vink reported on recent activities related to the Delta Levee Investment Strategy and the proposed revisions to Chapter 7 of the Delta Plan. He asked the Commission to consider the draft letter to Delta Stewardship Council Chair Randy Fiorini on the proposed revisions to Chapter 7 of the Delta Plan.

Commissioners ensued in a lengthy discussion. Comments were made by Chair Thomson and Commissioners Nomellini, Nottoli, Ferrara, Winn and Villegas. Chair Thomson expressed the importance of a strong statement in support of the Delta Levees Maintenance Subventions Program and the continuation of the 75-25 cost share provision. Commissioner Nomellini supported the statement in the draft letter arguing for a base-level of protection for all Delta levees. Vice-Chair Villegas asked for an addition to the letter requesting a response to the Commission's comments.

Chair Thomson asked for public comment; Melinda Terry of the California Central Valley Flood Control Association expressed support for a stronger statement on the Delta Levees Maintenance Subventions Program and the continuation of the 75-25 cost share provision.

Commission members discussed two changes to the draft letter presented: stronger wording in support of the Delta Levees Maintenance Subventions Program and the continuation of the 75-25 cost share provision, and a request for the Council to respond to the Commission's comments.

MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Nottoli and seconded by Commissioner Nomellini to accept the proposed changes to the letter; in a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously with 12 aye votes (all Commissioners present at roll call plus Commissioner Nottoli).

12. Commissioner Comments/announcements

Chair Thomson asked if the Commission would like to start its meetings at an earlier time; without a clear consensus, the discussion will be picked up at a future date. The next Commission meeting will be on March 16, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in Rio Vista.

13. Adjourn

Chair Thomson adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.